

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 19370 101352Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 /082 W
-----072676 110225Z /75

R 100924Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
INFO RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 3182
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
SECSTATE WASHDC 7384
INS WASHDC

UNCLAS BANGKOK 19370

THE FOL. MSG. REC'D FM AMCONSUL UDORN SENT ACTION TO BKK
INFO VIENTIANE (VIA POUCH) DTD 07 JUL 78 RPT FOR YR INFO

QUOTE
UNCLAS UDORN 0148

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, OH, LAN
SUBJ: REFUGEE INFLUX INTO NONG KHAI PROVINCE

REF: (A) UDORN 0130 (B) UDORN 0132

1. ACCORDING TO STATISTICAL SUMMARIES OBTAINED FROM POLICE
OFFICIALS IN FIVE PRINCIPAL BORDER DISTRICTS OF NONGKHAI
PROVINCE, A TOTAL OF 1580 RPT 1580 REFUGEES ENTERED PROVINCE
DURING PERIOD 1-30 JUNE. TOTAL CONSISTS OF APTROXIMATELY 920 LAO,
520 HMONG, AND 140 VIETNAM, SINO-LAO, AND THAI DAM.

2. RECENT STEPPED-UP INFLUX OF LOWLAND LAO REFUGEES, INCLUDING
VIET-LAO, SINO-LAO, AND THAI DAM, NOTED REFTEL B; SEEMS TO BE
CONTINUING AS NUMBER OF NEW ARRIVALS EXCEEDED 1000 FOR THIRD
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CONSECUTIVE MONTH. OUR INFORMAL COMPUTATION OF HMONG REFUGEE
INFLUX FROM PHU BIA AREA SINCE MARCH 1 IS 2750.

3. NONGKHAI REFUGEE CAMP POPULATION OFFICIAL TOTAL IS 27,739 AS
OF JULY 5. PROVINCIAL DETENTION CENTER INHABITANTS NUMBER
APPROXIMATELY 1300 AS OF SAME DATE.

4. UNHCR NORTHEAST REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED US JULY 6 THAT UBON REFUGEE CAMP CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE VERY RAPID GROWTH. AFTER COMPLETING TWO DAYS OF REGISTERING NEW ARRIVALS AT CAMP JULY 3-4, DURING WHICH HE DISCUSSED REFUGEE INFLUX WITH CAMP OFFICIALS AND REFUGEE LEADERS, HE ESTIMATES CURRENT POPULATION TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY GREATER THAN LAST MONTH'S OFFICIAL TOTAL OF 22,500. ACCORDING TO HIS SOURCES, AN ESTIMATED 2000 REFUGEES HAVE ENTERED CAMP DURING PAST TWO WEEKS. MOST OF NEW ARRIVALS APPEAR TO BE MADUIUC OF REFUGEES RESIDING ILLEGALLY IN UBON'S BORDER DISTRICTS, PARTICULARLY KHEMMARAT. IN THIS DISTRICT, RECENT SUSPENSION OF ILLEGATSLOGGING OPERATIONS THAT EMPLOYED LAO REFUGEES COMBINED WITH ADMINISTRATIVE PRESSURE FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY LED MANY REFUGEES TO SEEK HAVEN IN UBON CAMP. SIGNED FINNEY.
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O'DONOHUE

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